

## REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Miller for the interview accorded applicant's attorney.

During the interview, the current amendments to claims 6 and 8 were discussed in connection with the Durkee and Kershaw patents. It was pointed out that in each of those patents, the clamping force is directed to push the clamp in a direction toward the disc, rather than away from the disc as presently claimed. Such a difference results in a different orientation of the clamping forces acting on the components of the apparatus and is not taught by the prior art.

Also, claim 8 has been amended to recite that the knife is "supported by" the bracket, in order to overcome the indefiniteness rejection of that claim.

Although not discussed during the interview, dependent claim 12 has been amended to clarify the language therein. That claim now makes clear that the surface 17 of the groove 20 is oriented perpendicular to the projecting direction of the knife 1. That means that the force  $P'3$  which acts against the clamp is directly opposite the projecting direction of the knife and thus does not produce a force component such as component  $P'3\mu$  in the prior art device shown in Figs. 1 and 2 which force component serves to undesirably reduce the force  $P4$  in the prior art device. (Stated otherwise, the contact of the clamp with the wear plate is opposed or barred in the projecting direction of the knife in order to create the force  $P'3$ , as recited in claim 6.

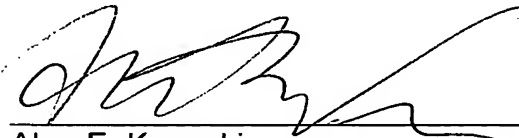
In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: January 24, 2008

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Kopecki', written over a horizontal line.

Alan E. Kopecki  
Registration No. 25813

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404  
703 836 6620